

**Introduced by Senator Hollingsworth**

February 7, 2006

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An act relating to SAFE teams, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1240, as introduced, Hollingsworth. SAFE teams.

Existing law authorizes the establishment of county and regional Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) teams to reduce violent sexual assault offenses.

This bill would appropriate \$15,000,000 from the General Fund to the Controller for distribution to county sheriffs for the implementation of county and regional SAFE team programs, as specified.

The bill would also set forth the findings and declarations of the Legislature in this regard.

The bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) Habitual sexual assault offenders pose a significant risk to
- 4 the welfare and safety of the residents of California.
- 5 (b) Predatory sex offenders frequently travel to areas outside
- 6 of the jurisdictions in which they reside to evade surveillance and

1 possible arrest by local law enforcement agencies for probation  
2 or parole violations.

3 (c) Recent data shows that approximately 44 percent of sexual  
4 predators are not registering as required under Megan's Law, and  
5 law enforcement officials are unaware of their current location.

6 (d) The Legislature has encouraged the formation of regional  
7 law enforcement task forces consisting of officers and agents  
8 from several law enforcement agencies organized for the explicit  
9 purpose of reducing violent sexual assaults through proactive  
10 surveillance and arrests of habitual sexual offenders.

11 (e) The funding of the Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement  
12 (SAFE) Teams is critical to tracking sexually violent predators  
13 and protecting the welfare and safety of Californians.

14 SEC. 2. (a) The sum of fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000)  
15 is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Controller  
16 for distribution to county sheriffs for the implementation of  
17 county and regional SAFE team programs pursuant to Chapter  
18 9.7 (commencing with Section 13887) of Title 6 of Part 4 of the  
19 Penal Code.

20 (b) No county may use funds provided pursuant to this act to  
21 supplant any other sources of funding.

22 SEC. 3. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the  
23 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety  
24 within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go  
25 into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity  
26 are:[PU (DF 21, Revised 12/94) PU RN0301132]

27 In order to protect the citizens of our state, particularly  
28 children, from sexually violent predators, it is necessary that this  
29 act take effect immediately.